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Final Report

Employment and Housing: Current Situation and Aspirations of Unemployed and Underemployed Men in Southeast Ohio

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FINAL REPORT

Employment and Housing: Current Situation and Aspirations of Unemployed and Underemployed Men in Southeast Ohio[1]

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INTRODUCTION

High levels of unemployment and underemployment[3] and inadequate housing are frequently identified by community leaders as major problems in southeast Ohio, including the five-county area (Vinton, Meigs, Jackson, Athens, and Gallia counties) designated for rural development under the auspices of the GROW (Generating Rural Ohio Wealth) project.

Results of previous research have demonstrated that unemployment has a marked negative effect, independent of income, on individuals' quality of life and general outlook. The unemployed are less satisfied with their housing, communities, and other aspects of their lives; think they are less fairly treated by public officials than do the employed; have less trust in people; and worry about having a nervous breakdown (1, p. 313). Unemployed men are much more prone to such feelings than unemployed women —perhaps because we are still a society in which the male of the family is considered the chief breadwinner (1, p. 313).

A number of studies have shown that for most men between the years of formal schooling and retirement, work is central to health and psychic well-being and the basis of self-esteem (4). Failure to perform satisfactorily in this role and to provide the comforts of daily living made possible through work cannot help but negatively affect the individual and his relationships with family and community.

Inadequate housing, which often accompanies unemployment and underemployment because of lack of regular income to acquire or maintain housing, compounds the ill effects of employment problems. Lack of some or all sanitary facilities and poor heating contribute to poor health, and crowding has a detrimental effect on individual mental health and family relationships.

At the onset of the GROW project—a joint research and extension effort to facilitate orderly economic growth—introduction of new industry into the area was expected to improve the employment situation and produce substantial in-migration which would have led to an increased demand for quality housing. However, the expected changes in employment and population do not appear to have taken place. A July 1975 article in The Messenger, an Athens, Ohio, newspaper, indicated that the new jobs were taken by area residents—many of whom were young, unmarried and still living with their parents (8). The lack of in-migration and the demographic characteristics of many of the new job takers has forestalled rapid increase in the demand for housing, leaving local communities time to concentrate on solving existing housing problems before facing new ones.

The fact that the jobs were mainly taken by area residents has reduced existing and potential unemployment in the area. However, unemployment in most of the GROW counties remains above state averages and median household income is well below that for the state. Average unemployment for Ohio in 1976 was 7.8% while four of the GROW counties averaged 8.6% (Gallia), 9.8% (Jackson), 8.9% (Vinton), and 8.8% (Athens). Only Meigs, with an average unemployment rate of 6.5%, was below the state average.

At the onset of the GROW project in 1974, estimated median household income in the GROW counties ranged from 30% (Athens) to 44% (Jackson) below that for the state, suggesting that many of those employed had low earnings and that many others were simply not in the labor force.

With respect to housing, the 1970 census showed that the GROW counties had very high rates of abandoned housing relative to the rest of the state and that in four of the five counties (Athens excepted), a fourth or more of the units lacked some or all plumbing facilities. The cost of a septic tank must be absorbed by individual dwelling owners. Few owner-occupants can afford this cost and few renters could pay the additional rent necessary to cover the cost.

[1]This is the final report on a project supported by Title V research funds of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, pursuant to the Rural Development Act of 1972 as part of the GROW (Generating Rural Ohio Wealth) effort in southeast Ohio, administered by the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster.

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[3]Persons are underemployed who are working part-time involuntarily, who are working beneath their skill level, or whose own earnings are below poverty level income for families of their type as defined by the U. S. Bureau of the Census. Because poverty line income is barely sufficient for a subsistence level of living, men were considered underemployed in this study if their own earnings were 125% or less of poverty level income for families of their type.

The high cost of new conventional housing is not competitive with the cost of existing units in the area. Consequently, in four of the five counties (Jackson excepted), most new homes are mobile homes and a much higher proportion of all dwellings are mobile homes than is true for other Ohio counties.

The first step in working toward solutions to employment and housing problems is to obtain more detailed information about their nature than is available from aggregate statistics. This information should include how the people experiencing the problems perceive their situations.

The purpose of this study was to provide information to policy makers and community organizations in southeast Ohio. Specific objectives were:

- To identify the characteristics and job aspirations of a sample of currently unemployed and underemployed male heads of households in southeast Ohio.
- To determine the perceived and actual quality of housing of the above persons and their aspirations for improved housing.
- To identify needs for self-help programs aimed at increasing job and home maintenance and improvement skills.

METHODOLOGY

Sample

Respondents were male heads of households between the ages of 20 and 55 who had lived in their current dwelling for at least 1 year. They were located through organizations which operate in the GROW area to provide either learning services or assistance in other forms to persons with a low income and a desire to help themselves.

Many were participants in the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (26 men), Community Action Program (24 men), and the Jackson County Manpower Program (22 men). Others were referrals from Gallia County Welfare Department (13 men) or persons from the above mentioned programs who had been contacted for interview (38 men). In 7 EFNEP families, the employed head was not underemployed according to the definition used in this study (see footnote 2). However, 6 of the 7 heads had earnings only slightly above 125% of poverty line income. All were retained in the sample because of their interest in self-help.

Of a total of 174 contacts, 32 were ineligible, 4 were eligible but refused to cooperate, and 138 were interviewed, with 123 usable interview schedules.

The sample is, therefore, intentionally not random but rather encompasses the persons identifiable as both needing help in meeting their own objectives and willing to cooperate with community service organizations to achieve higher levels of living. Such people are most likely to be able to be helped by new programs and are of particular interest to community leaders and organizations.

Questionnaire

An interviewer-administered questionnaire was developed to obtain the information needed for the study (Appendix). The first part of the instrument obtained information regarding the respondent's personal characteristics, current employment situation and previous experience, plans for seeking work in the future, and work related attitudes and aspirations. The second part focused on housing: the individual's home maintenance skills and interest in learning or improving these skills, satisfaction with various aspects of his housing and the importance of each, condition of the dwelling and its characteristics, housing costs, and plans for housing improvements or moving in the next year. Questions developed for other surveys—by Deacon and Firebaugh and their students (2), Morris and Winter and colleagues (6), and the U. S. Bureau of the Census National Longitudinal Surveys of Work Experience—were incorporated wherever possible.

A preliminary questionnaire was field-tested on five persons in Scioto County who met the eligibility criteria.

Interviewers

Based on recommendations of personnel in the Jackson Area Cooperative Extension Service office, two local women with previous interviewing experience were hired to conduct the interviews. One worked primarily in Gallia and to a lesser extent in Meigs County; the other worked primarily in Jackson County (with two interviews in Vinton County). Interviewing took place between Oct. 1, 1976, and April 11, 1977.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE

The majority of the 123 respondents lived in Jackson (59) and Gallia (47) counties; 15 lived in Meigs and 2 in Vinton County. Overall, respondents' mean age was 32 years. About one-half were between 20 and 30 and one-half were more than 30 years of age (Table 1). Mean education was 9.5 years. More than 70% of those interviewed were not high school graduates and 37% had 8 or fewer years of formal education (Table 1).

Age and education were significantly and negatively related ($r = -.269$, $p < .01$); older men had less education than younger men (Table 2). Thirty-eight men or nearly one-third of the sample reported that they were disabled to some degree (Table 1). The mean age of disabled men (36.3 years) was significantly higher than that of non-disabled men (30.0 years) ($t = 3.84$, $p < .01$) (Table 3).

TABLE 1.—Demographic Characteristics by Employment Status.

Characteristics	Employment Status					
	Employed		Unemployed		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Age in years						
20-25	12	26.1	20	26.0	32	26.0
26-30	13	28.3	18	23.4	31	25.2
31-40	15	32.6	23	29.9	38	30.9
41-55	6	13.0	16	20.8	22	17.9
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean age	31.0		32.4		32.0	
Education in years						
8 or less	13	28.3	33	42.9	46	37.4
9-11	15	32.6	26	33.8	41	33.3
12	14	30.4	14	18.2	28	22.8
13 or more	4	8.7	4	5.2	8	6.5
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean years ($t = 2.35$, $p < .02$)	10.1		8.9		9.5	
Number in household						
1	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	0.8
2	5	10.9	8	10.4	13	10.6
3	11	23.9	18	23.4	29	23.6
4	12	26.1	18	23.4	30	24.4
5	5	10.9	13	16.9	18	14.6
6	6	13.0	8	10.4	14	11.4
7-12	7	15.2	11	14.3	18	14.7
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean number	4.7		4.6		4.6	
Disabled	9	20.0	29	37.7	38	31.1
Own earned income, 1975						
$0	5	10.9	38	49.4	43	35.0
$1-1999	1	2.2	6	7.8	7	5.7
$2000-2999	6	13.0	12	15.6	18	14.6
$3000-3999	5	10.9	12	15.6	17	13.8
$4000-4999	7	15.2	2	2.6	9	7.3
$5000-5999	4	8.7	3	3.9	7	5.7
$6000 or more	18	39.1	3	3.9	21	17.1
Missing information	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	0.8
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean income ($t = -5.90$, $p < .01$)	$5516		$1670		$3120	
Family income, 1975						
$0	1	2.2	0	0.0	1	0.8
$1-1999	1	2.2	6	7.8	7	5.7
$2000-2999	4	8.7	21	27.3	25	20.3
$3000-3999	4	8.7	24	31.2	28	22.7
$4000-4999	10	21.7	13	16.9	23	18.7
$5000-5999	3	6.5	3	3.9	6	4.9
$6000 or more	23	50.0	9	11.7	32	26.0
Missing information	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	0.8
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
	$6988		$3842		$4790	
Ratio of family income to poverty line income						
$0.50 or less	6	13.0	24	31.2	30	24.4
0.51-1.00	17	37.0	45	58.4	62	50.4
1.01-1.25	8	17.4	3	3.9	11	8.9
1.26 or more	15	32.6	4	5.2	19	15.4
Missing information	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	0.8
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean ratio ($t = -3.27$, $p < .01$)	1.22		0.66		0.87	
Received welfare payments in 1975	9	19.6	35	46.7	44	36.4

TABLE 2.—Education by Age.

Education in Years	Age in Years 20-25		26-30		31-40		41-55		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
8 or less	6	18.8	7	22.6	22	57.9	12	54.5	47	38.2
9-11	16	50.0	12	38.7	7	18.4	5	22.7	40	32.5
12	9	28.1	8	25.8	7	18.4	4	18.2	28	22.8
13 or more	1	3.1	4	12.9	2	5.3	1	4.5	8	6.5
	32	100.0	31	100.0	38	100.0	22	100.0	123	100.0

TABLE 3.—Presence of Self-reported Disability by Age.

Age in Years	Disabled	
	No.	%
20-25	1	3.2
26-30	8	25.8
31-40	18	47.4
41-55	11	50.0

TABLE 4.—Employment Status of Respondents.

Status	Number	Percent
Employed	46	37.4
Number of jobs held		
1	41	89.1
2	4	8.7
3	1	2.2
	46	100.0
Hours worked per week at all jobs		
16-34	8	17.4
35-40	27	58.7
More than 40	10	21.7
Missing information	1	2.2
	46	100.0
Weeks worked per year at main job		
Less than 50	5	10.9
50-52	38	82.6
Missing information	3	6.5
	46	100.0
Unemployed	77	62.6
Number of months since last job		
1-12	31	40.3
13-24	15	19.5
25-36	13	16.9
37 or more	17	22.1
Missing information	1	1.3
	77	100.0
Reason left last job		
Health	24	31.2
Seasonal work	5	6.5
Slack work	21	27.3
Temporary work	2	2.6
Unsatisfactory work conditions	13	16.8
Other	12	15.6
	77	100.0

Household size ranged from 1 to 12 persons, with a mean of 4.6 persons. Nearly one-half of the households had 3 or 4 persons (Table 1). Household size increased with age of head ($r = .43$, $p < .01$).

Respondents' own earned income in 1975 ranged from 0 to $19,600, with a mean of $3,120. Some 35% had no earned income in 1975 and an additional 41% earned less than $5,000 (Table 1). Respondents' own earned income increased with education, but the correlation was low ($r = .20$, $p < .03$).

Total family income, which includes earnings of other family members and transfer payments, ranged from 0 to $21,000, with a mean of $4,790. Only one family had no income in 1975; nearly seven-tenths had incomes under $5,000 (Table 1). Two-thirds of the families had some income from wages and salaries and 36% received welfare payments. Other sources of income were relatively unimportant: only 12% received pension income, 11% unemployment compensation, 7% income from an owned business, and 7% income from other sources.

Since the adequacy of a given family income depends partly on the number of persons in the family, some method of adjusting income for family size is needed to measure relative affluence. One measure used for this purpose is the U. S. Bureau of the Census poverty index. Using the assumption that low-income families spend one-third of their incomes on food, this measure was originally computed by multiplying the cost of the USDA economy food plan for families of various sizes by three (more than three for one- and two-person families). Different indexes are computed for male- and female-headed families and both are adjusted for farm families. The index is updated annually according to the Consumer Price Index.

The 1975 poverty threshold incomes for male-headed, nonfarm families were: one person—$2,902; two persons—$3,636; three persons—$4,317; four persons—$5,502; five persons—$6,504; six persons—$7,322; and seven or more persons—$9,056.

In comparing each respondent's total family income to the appropriate 1975 poverty threshold, three-fourths of the families had incomes at or below

the poverty line (Table 1). An additional 9% had incomes from 1% to 25% above the poverty line. Since the economy food plan on which these income thresholds are based is intended for emergency use only because of the difficulty of obtaining adequate nutrition at that cost level, the latter families were probably struggling to make ends meet. About 16% of the families had incomes more than 25% above the poverty line. The incidence of varying degrees of poverty among the families was not related to age or education of the male head or to household size.

EMPLOYMENT

Current Employment Status and Job Search Behavior

Seventy-seven respondents (63%) were unemployed (Table 4). Of these, 29 (38%) had some disability which limited their capacity to work and 91% had family incomes below the poverty line (Table 1). Nearly one-half of the unemployed had received welfare payments in 1975 (Table 1).

The length of the current spell of joblessness ranged from 1 to 169 months, with a mean of 17.7 months. About two-fifths had been unemployed 1 year or less and three-fifths 2 years or less. The length of the current joblessness increased with age ($r = .34$, $p < .01$) and decreased with education ($r = -.41$, $p < .01$). In addition, the average duration of joblessness was significantly higher for disabled men (31.2 months) than for nondisabled men (11.6 months) ($t = 2.67$, $p < .01$). Health problems (31%) and layoffs (27%) were the main reasons given for leaving the last job (Table 4).

Nearly nine-tenths of the 46 employed respondents held one job at which they worked 40 hours a week year-round (Table 4). One-fifth were disabled and one-half had family incomes below the poverty line. One-fifth had received welfare payments in 1975 (Table 1).

Sixty-seven respondents (55%) were looking for work (Table 5). Of these, 81% were unemployed. For those not looking for work, most frequently mentioned reasons for not looking included already having a job (51%) and health (31%). Roughly one-half of the job seekers had contacted public employment agencies and employers directly; about three-tenths had made use of private employment agencies (Table 5). More than three-fifths of the unemployed job seekers had tried at least two methods; employed job seekers averaged only one.

For job seekers, length of time looking for work ranged from 1 to 312 weeks, with a mean of about 50

TABLE 5.—Job Search Behavior by Employment Status.

Job Search Behavior	Employment Status					
	Employed		Unemployed		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Had been looking for work in 4 weeks preceding interview	13	28.3	54	71.4	67	54.9
Number of weeks had been looking for work (if looking)						
4 or less	1	7.7	8	14.8	9	13.4
5-12	4	30.8	9	16.7	13	19.4
13-52	8	61.5	16	29.6	24	35.8
53 or more	0	0.0	20	37.0	20	29.9
Missing information	0	0.0	1	1.9	1	1.5
	13	100.0	54	100.0	67	100.0
Mean weeks ($t = 2.03$, $p < .05$)	32.5		53.8		50.0	
Methods used by job seekers to find work						
Public employment agency	5	38.5	30	54.5	35	52.2
Private employment agency	3	23.0	17	30.9	20	29.8
Direct contacts with employers	3	23.0	32	58.2	35	52.2
Assistance from friends/relatives	3	23.0	7	12.7	10	14.9
Placement of advertisements	1	7.7	1	1.9	2	3.0
Other	0	0.0	3	5.4	3	4.5
Intentions to look for work in next year						
Definitely	23	50.0	60	77.9	83	67.5
Probably	5	10.9	2	2.6	7	5.7
Maybe	3	6.5	6	7.8	9	7.3
No	12	26.1	7	9.1	19	15.4
Don't know	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	0.8
Missing information	3	6.5	1	1.3	4	3.3
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0

weeks. One-third of these men had been looking for 12 weeks or less; three-tenths—all of them unemployed—had been looking for jobs for more than 1 year (Table 5). Nearly all wanted full-time work. Nearly four-fifths felt that they hadn't found work because none was available; nine men felt that discrimination was a factor in their not finding work but in most cases the reason for this belief was not clear. More than four-fifths of the unemployed and about three-fifths of the employed respondents said they would definitely or probably look for work in the next year (Table 5).

Discriminant analysis was used to determine whether employed and unemployed men were significantly different with respect to age, education, job training experience, disability status, and household size because other studies have suggested that these variables are related to unemployment experience (3). Unemployed men had less education and were more likely to be disabled than employed men; job training experience and household size were not useful discriminators between the two groups. However, the function was useless in predicting employment status. Thus, it appears that for these men, factors not measured were more important in determining whether or not they were employed.

Work Experience

The greatest proportion of the respondents (21%) were employed or had last been employed in manufacturing industries, followed by government (17%), service (14%), farming (13%), and construction (11%) (Table 6). The type of business of the current job or last job was significantly different for employed and unemployed respondents. The last job of unemployed men was most often in manufacturing (27%) or service or construction (16% each). Current jobs of employed men were most often in government (30%) or farming (22%) (Table 6). About three-fourths held or had held unskilled or semi-skilled jobs.[4]

[4]Jobs classified as unskilled or semi-skilled included general labor in farming, mining, construction, etc. and heavy equipment operation. Jobs classified as skilled included supervisory and clerical positions and construction trades (e.g., plumber).

TABLE 6.—Work Experience.

Work Experience	Employment Status					
	Employed		Unemployed		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Type of business of current (if employed) or last (if unemployed) job						
Government	14	30.4	7	9.1	21	17.1
Farming	10	21.7	6	7.8	16	13.0
Manufacturing	5	10.9	21	27.3	26	21.1
Service	5	10.9	12	15.6	17	13.8
Self-employed	4	8.7	4	5.2	8	6.5
Mining	3	6.5	3	3.9	6	4.9
Sales	2	4.3	6	7.8	8	6.5
Construction	2	4.3	12	15.6	14	11.4
Other	1	2.2	6	7.8	7	5.7
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Total weeks unemployed in last 3 years						
0	14	30.4	0	0.0	14	11.3
1-26	9	19.5	10	13.0	19	15.4
27-52	11	23.9	11	14.3	22	17.9
53-76	2	4.3	10	13.0	12	9.8
77-104	7	15.2	19	24.7	26	21.1
105 or more	3	6.5	27	35.1	30	24.4
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean weeks ($t = 5.78$, $p < .01$)	38.2		88.3		69.5	
Number of times unemployed in last 3 years						
0	14	30.4	0	0.0	14	11.4
1	17	37.0	46	59.7	63	51.2
2	7	15.2	20	26.0	27	22.0
3 or more	7	15.2	8	10.4	15	12.2
Missing information	1	2.2	3	3.9	4	3.3
	46	100.0	77	100.0	123	100.0
Mean number of times	1.4		2.1		1.9	
Had taken job training	20	43.5	24	32.4	44	36.7

When asked what kind of work they felt most qualified to do, a smaller proportion (56%) mentioned unskilled or semi-skilled jobs than were most recently or presently employed at low skill levels. Thus, nearly one-fifth of the men considered their present or most recent job to be beneath their skill level.

In the 3 years preceding the interviews, 60% of the respondents had held one or two jobs, 15% had held three different jobs, and 15% had not worked at all. Unemployment experienced during the past 3 years ranged from 0 to 156 weeks, with a mean of 69.5 weeks. About 11% had experienced no unemployment and 15% had been jobless from 1 to 26 weeks (Table 6). Number of weeks of unemployment decreased as education increased ($r = -.30$, $p < .01$). In addition, disabled persons had experienced more weeks of unemployment, on the average (93.1 weeks), than the non-disabled (59.7 weeks) ($t = 3.42$, $p < .01$).

Of persons employed at the time of the survey, 70% had been jobless at some point during the past 3 years. About one-half of all respondents had been unemployed once; a little more than one-fifth had been jobless twice. Only 12% (15 men) had been unemployed three or more times (Table 6). Unemployment was a greater problem than underemployment (employment with fewer hours of work than desired). About 30% had experienced this type of underemployment for varying amounts of time.

Stepwise multiple regression analysis was used to determine whether age, education, job training experience, disability status, and household size—the same variables expected to be related to employment status—were useful in explaining variance in the number of weeks and number of periods of unemployment men had experienced in the past 3 years. None of these variables was related to the number of times the men had been unemployed. Education and disability status explained about 16% of the variance (adjusted for sample size) in the number of weeks unemployed. Higher levels of education and lack of disability were associated with fewer weeks of unemployment. However, because of the low R^2, these variables would be poor predictors of unemployment experience for these men. Other factors, not here identified, were more important.

More than one-half the men had held six or more jobs during their working years; the number held was not related to age. By classifying persons as skilled or unskilled on the basis of the majority of jobs held, 21% were skilled workers and 79% were unskilled. These percentages are only a rough estimation of skill level as it was often difficult in coding open-ended responses to determine the skill level of a job. About three-fifths of the respondents mentioned some kind of work they felt they could do but had not done in a paid job. Carpentry, home repairs, and other aspects of construction were most often mentioned.

A discriminant analysis was performed to determine whether the skilled and unskilled were significantly different with respect to age, education, and job training experience—variables which might be expected to be related to skill level. Results indicated that unskilled workers were younger, had less education (the most important discriminator), and were less likely to have had job training than skilled workers—consistent with previous studies. However, the poor prediction results indicated that these variables would not be useful predictors of skill level for these men. These results may partly reflect the inadequacies of the variable, skill level, and its highly skewed distribution.

Somewhat more than one-third of the men (44) had received job training—mainly through government programs (Table 6). Only 26 had actually held jobs which utilized the training; 8 didn't even mention the skill for which they were trained as work they could do. Information was not obtained regarding whether the training was completed and when. Auto mechanics and welding were the most often mentioned jobs for which respondents were trained.

More than three-fourths expressed unconditional interest in taking job training if it would improve their chances of getting a good job. An additional 25% expressed conditional interest (depending mainly on kind and location of work and cost of training). Not surprisingly, interest in job training declined with age (Table 7).

Work Attitudes and Aspirations

Information was obtained from the respondents regarding their attitudes toward work and getting work and their work aspirations. Such information might be expected to help explain some kinds of work experience, *e.g.*, chronic unemployment, and suggest areas where counseling might be productive in solving labor market problems.

Nearly 90% of the men said they would work even if they had enough money to live comfortably without working (Table 7). Most said they either would be bored or not feel right not working.

Two-thirds felt that getting a good job is a matter of being in the right place at the right time rather than a matter of hard work. Older men were more likely to feel this way than younger men (Table 7). Men who felt that getting a good job is a matter of "luck" averaged 32.6 years of age compared to 28.5

years for those who felt it is a matter of hard work ($t = 2.30$, $p < .03$). In the National Longitudinal Survey of Work Experience in 1969 (U. S. Bureau of the Census), only about 36% of a cross section of men ages 40 to 55 expressed a similar feeling.

According to results of discriminant analysis of the latter variable, men who believe that getting a job is a matter of hard work were younger, more likely to be employed, and had less education than those who believed it is a matter of "luck." However, as has been true of previous multivariate analyses reported in this study, these variables were not useful in predicting individuals' attitudes. It is impossible from the data to determine whether the predominant belief of these men simply reflects their experience or is part of their problem in finding work. The relationship of the attitude to age, however, suggests the former view.

When asked to list the three most important things about a job, 78% said money and 56% said working conditions. Financial security, employer-employee relations, and the extent to which the work was interesting or challenging were mentioned by one-fifth or more of the respondents.

The respondents were asked to indicate the conditions they would attach to a job offer to accept it. More than three-fourths expressed no preference for a particular type of work. About one-fourth said they would accept an hourly wage of less than $3.00 and more than half would accept less than $4.00. Acceptance wages of employed men were, not surprisingly, higher than those of unemployed men.

The men were also asked to describe the kind of job they would like to have. About 83% were able to identify a specific kind of job they would prefer (16% wanted to be truck drivers—the most fre-

TABLE 7.—Attitudes Toward Work by Age.

Attitudes Toward Work	Age in Years 20-25		26-30		31-40		41-55		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Feelings about what it takes to get a job										
Being in right place at right time	21	65.6	17	54.8	25	65.8	18	81.8	81	65.9
Hard work	7	21.9	7	22.6	6	15.8	1	4.5	21	17.1
Both	2	6.2	2	6.5	1	2.6	1	4.5	6	4.9
Missing information	2	6.2	5	16.1	6	15.8	2	9.1	15	12.2
	32	100.0	31	100.0	38	100.0	22	100.0	123	100.0
Would be willing to take job training										
Unconditionally	29	90.6	23	74.2	27	73.0	14	63.6	93	76.2
With conditions	2	6.3	7	22.6	8	21.6	6	27.3	23	18.9
	31	96.9	30	96.8	35	94.6	20	90.9	116	95.1
Would work even if had enough money to live comfortably without working	29	90.6	30	96.8	34	89.5	17	77.3	110	89.4
Perception of chances of getting kind of job would like to have in next year										
Poor	14	43.8	11	35.5	17	44.7	13	59.1	55	44.7
Fair	12	37.5	11	35.5	10	26.3	7	31.9	40	32.5
Good	5	15.6	7	22.6	9	23.7	1	4.5	22	17.9
Excellent	1	3.1	2	6.5	2	5.3	0	0.0	5	4.1
Missing information	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	4.5	1	0.8
	32	100.0	31	100.0	38	100.0	22	100.0	123	100.0
Perception of chances of getting kind of job would like to have in lifetime										
Poor	4	12.5	5	16.1	11	28.9	7	31.8	27	22.0
Fair	6	18.8	8	25.8	8	21.1	10	45.5	32	26.0
Good	17	53.1	10	32.3	11	28.9	3	13.7	41	33.3
Excellent	4	12.5	8	25.8	8	21.1	1	4.5	21	17.1
Missing information	1	3.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	4.5	2	1.6
	32	100.0	31	100.0	38	100.0	22	100.0	123	100.0

quently mentioned job), despite their apparent willingness to accept other kinds of work. On the other hand, wage aspirations were consistent with acceptance wages. About 40% of the men either didn't mention wages or said wages didn't matter in describing their ideal job; another 36% mentioned hourly rates under $4.00 as what they would like to make.

More than one-half expressed no preference on the hours worked (either time of day or number of hours). However, because of the way the question was worded (describe the kind of job you would like to have), most respondents may have assumed they were describing a full-time job with typical daytime, weekday hours.

Nearly three-fifths of the respondents said that the kind of job they would like to have could be anywhere, whereas one-third wanted to stay within their county. Since it is impossible to determine the respondents' perception of "anywhere," this finding should not be interpreted too literally.

In assessing their chances of getting the kind of job they would like in the next year, the greatest proportion said poor (45%) or fair (32%). When the time horizon was extended to their lifetime, however, the greatest proportions rated their chances as good (33%) or fair (26%). In the latter case, expectations were, not surprisingly, influenced by age, with the younger respondents more optimistic (Table 7).

HOUSING

Tenure and Housing Expenditure

Although 75% of all houses in the five-county GROW area were classified in the 1970 census as owner-occupied, only 43% of the dwelling units in this study were occupied by owners. Market values for houses of from $1,000 to $40,000 were estimated by owners (Table 8). One-half of the owned houses were valued at less than $7,500.

Among non-owners, contract rents ranged from $10 to $180 per month, with a median rent of $70 paid monthly. Average gross rent, including rent, fuels, and utilities paid directly by the resident, was $1,562 on an annual basis. Housing cost—including mortgage payments, property tax, insurance, fuels, and utilities—averaged $1,551 per year for home owners. The difference in housing cost between renting and owning was not significant.

The average family used 42.2% of its total income for housing expenditures. This is considerably greater than the 25% of income suggested by Congress as the maximum that poor families should have to spend for housing according to the Brooke Amendment to the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1969. In addition, according to results of multiple regression analysis, family income, household size, and age of head—variables that would be expected to be strongly related to housing expenditures—explained virtually none of the variance in housing expenditures. Apparently the families studied had little or no choice with respect to housing.

TABLE 8.—Estimated Market Value of Owned Homes.

Market Value of Owned Homes	Owners	
	No.	%
Less than $2,500	5	9.4
$2,500 to $5,000	17	32.1
$6,000 to $10,000	12	22.6
$14,000 to $15,000	4	7.5
$17,000 to $20,000	6	11.3
$23,000 to $25,000	2	3.8
$34,000 to $40,000	3	5.7
Missing information	4	7.5
	53	100 0

Housing expenditures (Table 9) consumed 45% of the average renter's family income and 38% of the average home owner's family income. This difference was not statistically significant. However, there was a significant difference in the housing expenditure/family income ratio between households with unemployed and employed heads. Housing expenditures were 51% of the family budget when the household head was unemployed and 25% of the family budget when the head of the household was employed ($t = 4.24$, $p < .01$).

Owner families had occupied their present dwelling for an average of 5 years compared to only 2 years for renters (Table 10). This difference was significant ($t = 3.86$, $p < .01$).

TABLE 9.—Housing Expenditure as Percent of Total Family Income.

Housing Expenditure as Percent of Income	Households	
	No.	%
Rent free or missing information	4	3.3
Less than 10%	7	5.7
11 to 20%	16	13.0
21 to 30%	20	16.3
31 to 40%	24	19.5
41 to 50%	20	16.3
51 to 60%	11	8.9
61 to 70%	7	5.7
71 to 80%	3	2.4
81 to 90%	4	3.3
91 to 100%	1	0.8
More than 100%	6	4.9
	123	100.0

TABLE 10.—Number of Years Household Has Occupied Present Dwelling.

Number of Years in Present Dwelling	Tenure Status					
	Owners		Renters		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 2 years	10	18.9	38	55.9	48	39.7
2 to 5 years	28	52.8	25	36.8	53	43.8
6 to 21 years	15	28.3	5	7.3	20	16.5
	53	100.0	68	100.0	121	100.0
Mean years ($t = 3.8$, $p < .01$)	2.2		5.1		3.5	

TABLE 11.—Style and Type of House.

Type of House	Style of House			Total	
	One-story	Two-story	Other		
	No.			No.	%
Single family	71	18	3	92	74.8
Two family/duplex/twin-single	4	2	0	6	4.9
Apartment	2	1	0	3	2.4
Row house/townhouse	1	2	0	3	2.4
Mobile home in park	1	0	0	1	0.8
Mobile home on lot	18	0	0	18	14.6
	97	23	3	123	100.0
Percent of total	78.9	18.7	4.9	100.0	

TABLE 12.—Size and Age of House.

Size of House in Square Feet	Age of House in Years						Missing Information	Total	
	1-5	6-10	11-20	21-40	41-60	More than 60			
	Number of Houses							No.	%
Less than 500	1	1	3	1	0	2	1	9	7.3
500-999	14	6	5	14	4	10	16	69	56.1
1,000-1,499	4	1	3	3	5	6	4	26	21.1
1,500-1,999	1	1	0	1	2	5	2	12	9.8
2,000 to 2,499	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	2.4
2,500-3,000	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	4	3.3
	20	9	11	20	12	27	24	123	100.0
Percent of total	16.3	7.3	8.9	16.3	9.8	22.0	19.5		

TABLE 13.—Number of Bedrooms in Present Dwelling Unit and Bedrooms Needed According to Personal Norm and Cultural Norm.

Number of Bedrooms	Present House		Personal Norm		Cultural Norm	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
One	14	11.4	1	0.8	11	8.9
Two	62	50.4	30	24.4	50	40.7
Three	38	30.9	66	53.7	36	29.3
Four	6	4.9	14	11.4	10	8.1
Five	2	1.6	7	5.7	6	4.9
Six	0	0.0	2	1.6	5	4.1
Seven	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	3.3
Nine	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8
Not reported	1	0.8	3	2.4	0	0.0
	123	100.0	123	100.0	123	100.0

Description of Dwelling Units

Homes occupied by respondents tended to provide one-story of living space (79%), to be single-family homes (75%), and to be square or rectangular in shape (76%) (Table 11).

The space occupied together with the age of the houses is summarized in Table 12. Houses were generally modest in size. One-half of the units were smaller than 860 square feet and three-fourths provided less than 1,200 square feet of living space. Older homes contained more space than newer ones. The correlation between floor space and age of house was statistically significant ($r = .41$, $p < .01$).

The average age of houses was 40 years. Owned homes averaged 29 years and rented homes 49 years in age—a difference which was significant ($t = 3.59$, $p < .01$). Space occupied by renters and owners was not significantly different. Of the 19 mobile homes, 11 were less than 6 years old, accounting for slightly more than one-half of the dwelling units in that age group. Approximately one-third of owned homes were mobile homes.

Number of Bedrooms

The distribution of households by number of bedrooms in present house, preferred number of bedrooms identified by family heads (personal norm), and a measure of bedroom needs based on cultural values according to the number, age, and sex of family members (cultural norm) is shown in Table 13. The personal norm is based on the number of bedrooms the household head said were needed by a family like his own. The average number of bedrooms wanted by family heads was 0.66 greater than the average number of bedrooms per household in present housing of the respondents.

The personal norm for bedrooms is similar to what may be considered to be a cultural norm of our society. The cultural norm developed by Morris and Gladhart[5] procribes: one bedroom per couple, one bedroom for each sing'e person more than 18 years of age, one bedroom for each pair of same sex children between the ages of 9 and 17 whose ages differ by 4 years or less, one bedroom for pairs of children of any sex whose ages differ by 4 years or less and who are 8 years of age or younger, and one additional bedroom for each child not meeting criteria for paired children. The cultural norm was highly correlated to the personal norm for bedroom needs ($r = .69$, $p < .01$), showing that household heads aspire to have the number of bedrooms conforming to cultural norms of society.

Winter and Morris (5) argue that space needs are perceived in terms of bedroom needs and that failure of families to conform to the cultural norms is a result of constraints on their ability to achieve them. The gap between both cultural norm and personal norm and the actual number of bedrooms can be considered to be a deficit.

In Table 14 the deficits are illustrated for households between the cultural norm, the personal norm, and the actual number of bedrooms in each house. Negative bedroom deficits are indicative of more bedrooms in the house than would be needed according to either norm. A zero deficit means that the house presently occupied has the number of bedrooms which meets the needs of the family either in terms of the personal norm or the cultural norm. Positive deficits are indicators of failure to meet norms for number of bedrooms.

[5]For discussion of bedroom needs and deficits, see (5, pp. 96-100).

TABLE 14.—Bedroom Deficit Based on Cultural Norm and Personal Norm.

Bedroom Deficit	(A) Cultural Norm Minus (C) Number of Bedrooms		(B) Personal Norm Minus (C) Number of Bedrooms		(A) Cultural Norm Minus (B) Personal Norm	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
—3	0	0.0	1	0.8	0	0.0
—2	8	6.5	1	0.8	4	3.3
—1	16	13.0	7	5.7	43	35.0
0	40	32.5	47	38.2	52	42.3
1	34	27.6	47	38.2	16	13.0
2	16	13.0	15	12.2	5	4.1
3	3	2.4	4	3.3	2	1.6
4	5	4.1	1	0.8	1	0.8
5	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
	123	100.0	123	100.0	123	100.0
Mean deficit	0.29		0.66		—.12	
Correlation	$r_{AC} = 0.38$		$r_{BC} = 0.24$		$r_{AB} = 0.69$	

TABLE 15.—Type of System Used as Main Heat Source.

Heating System	Households	
	No.	%
Steam/hot water	1	0.8
Forced air/heat pump	32	26.0
Gravity furnace	9	7.3
Electric baseboard/cable	3	2.4
Floor or wall furnace	7	5.7
Space heater non-vented	3	2.4
Space heater-vented	36	29.3
Fireplace/Franklin stove	27	22.0
Other	4	3.3
Missing information	1	0.8
	123	100.0

Plumbing and Wastes

About 15% of the households did not have piped water within their dwelling units. Of the 105 households with piped water, 26% had only cold water and 74% had both hot and cold water. Two more families had full bathroom facilities than had hot water. In addition, six other families without complete baths had partial bath facilities—either a flush toilet or a shower or tub in their homes.

One-half of the families obtained water from public or private water distribution systems. Private wells provided water for one-third of the families and cisterns, springs, and streams served as water sources for the other 17% of the families.

Public sewer systems served 30% of the dwelling units, while septic tanks or cesspools were used by 37% of the households. The 37 households without flush toilets disposed of wastes in other ways. Information on waste disposal was missing for 3 families.

Trash and garbage were collected from 44% of the households. Composting and feeding of garbage to animals was reported by 37 percent of the household heads. Twenty-five families (20%) hauled their own trash or garbage to county collection sites. Other ways of disposing of wastes were: burning (12 families, 10%), using private dumps (14 families, 11%), and food waste disposers (5 families, 4%).

Heating and Cooling

A variety of heating systems were listed as main heat sources among households (Table 15). Gas was the most common fuel for house heating (60 households, 49%), followed by oil (18 households, 15%), coal (12 households, 10%), electricity (8 households, 7%), and wood (6 households, 5%). Nineteen families (15%) used more than one fuel for space heating. All of the rooms in 79% of the houses were heated during the winter. Twenty-four families (20%) heated only part of their homes.

Few dwelling units were air-conditioned. Four families had central air-conditioning and 14 families had window air-conditioning units.

Comfort Index (CI)

Many of the homes lacked insulation, screening, and storm doors or windows (Table 16). Others had only partially provided for these features which could help reduce fuel costs and/or increase summer and winter comfort.

Comfort features listed in Table 16 were combined into a Comfort Index (CI). For each feature, complete provision was weighted as 2, partial provision was weighted as 1, and lack of a feature was weighted as 0 in the index. Weights on the six features were summed to provide a Comfort Index value for each household. The average CI value was 5.0 among the homes. The average owner benefited from more comfort conditioning for his home than the average renter ($t = 5.09$, $p < .01$). Mean values were 6.6 for owners and 3.6 for renters on the Comfort Index.

Need for Maintenance and Improvement

Evaluations by both interviewers and heads of the households indicated that the housing occupied by cooperating families would benefit from maintenance and improvement activity. Interviewers rated the exterior condition of foundations, facing material, gutters, downspouts, porches, steps, and windows (Table 17). The foundations of 37 houses were described as having major faults. Considerable deterioration of facing material was noted at 41 houses; 62 others were reported to have no gutters or down-

TABLE 16.—Insulation, Screening, Storm Doors, and Storm Windows.

Comfort Feature	Provision							
	None		Partial		Complete		Not Reported	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Attic, ceiling, or roof insulation	68	55.3	13	10.6	39	31.7	3	2.4
Wall insulation	65	52.8	12	9.8	43	35.0	3	2.4
Storm windows	77	62.6	15	12.2	29	23.6	2	1.6
Storm doors	77	62.6	12	9.8	32	26.0	2	1.6
Window screens	44	35.8	35	28.5	42	34.1	2	1.6
Door screens	28	22.8	35	28.5	60	48.8	0	0.0

spouts. Porches and steps appeared to need at least minor repair at 61 of the homes and broken or cracked windows were noticed at 59 of the homes.

Household heads indicated their awareness of needed home improvements or repairs (Table 18). More than half of them said that inside painting, window repair, outside painting, insulating, crack caulking, replacement of boards, roof repairs, wall repairs, wood refinishing, and building of storage needed to be done.

Maintenance and Improvement Need Index (MINI)

Indications by household heads of a needed improvement or repair listed in Table 18 were scored as 1 and summed into an index named the Maintenance and Improvement Need Index (MINI). The range of MINI values was from 0, the score for 10% of the households in which the head perceived no need for any of the activities, to 12, the score for 8% of the dwelling units in which the head considered all 12 of the repairs or improvements to be needed in his house.

Mean MINI scores were significantly different between owned and rented homes and between homes with employed and unemployed heads. Owners' mean MINI score was 4.6 compared to 6.9 for renters ($t = 3.3$, $p < .01$). Unemployed heads' mean MINI score was 6.7 compared to 4.5 for employed heads ($t = 3.0$, $p < .01$).

Maintenance and Improvement Activities (MIEXP, MISKIL, MIINT)

Information was obtained from heads of households about their experience and skill in maintenance and improvement activities which parallel those used to construct the MINI measure (Table 19). Interest in learning maintenance and improvement skills was also ascertained. Three indices were constructed with this information: MIEXP, MISKIL, and MIINT.

Maintenance and Improvement Experience (MIEXP) was the sum of all answers indicating some experience in doing a maintenance and improvement activity. Thirteen household heads (11%) had experience in all tasks and thus had MIEXP scores of 16. Two men had been involved in none of the activities and thus had 0 scores on the Maintenance and Improvement Experience Index. Among all heads,

TABLE 18.—Household Heads' Ratings of Needed Repairs or Improvements to Present House.

Needed Repair or Improvement	Households	
	No.	%
Inside painting	84	68.3
Window repairs	82	66.7
Outside painting	80	65.0
Insulating	75	61.0
Crack caulking	73	59.3
Replacing boards	67	54.5
Wall repairs	66	53.7
Roofing repairs	66	53.7
Adding storage	64	52.0
Wood refinishing	64	52.0
Plaster repairs	59	48.0
Siding repairs	56	45.5
Flooring repairs	54	43.9
Wall papering	53	43.1
Concrete repairs	52	42.3
Switch repairs	52	42.3
Faucet repairs	49	39.8
Pipe repairs	40	32.5
Gutter repairs	33	26.8

TABLE 17.—Interviewers' Ratings of External Housing Conditions.

Rating by Interviewer	Households	
	No.	%
Foundation		
Blocks, stone, or concrete displaced or shifted, holes. Dips from level or gaps from sill	37	30.1
Cracks over more than 1 foot, sill exposed	5	4.1
Small cracks appearing to be minor	15	12.2
Sound	60	48.8
Did not see—missing data	6	4.9
	123	100.0
Lowest courses of facing material		
Uneven, signs of sagging, holes, missing mortar, splits, blistering, warping, and bulging	41	33.3
Minor faults, chips, signs of surface wear	21	17.1
Even, appearing sealed, in good condition	56	45.5
Did not see—missing data	5	4.1
	123	100.0
Gutters and downspouts		
None	62	50.4
Out of line with roof, sagging, broken off, not connected to downspout	9	7.3
Signs of rust, paint peeling, fasteners not attached	14	11.4
Sound	32	26.0
Did not see—missing data	6	4.9
	123	100.0
Porch and steps		
Rotted or split wood, settled out of level, boards missing	31	25.2
Surface showing deterioration, minor cracks, warped boards, painting needed to seal	30	24.4
Sound	46	37.4
Did not have—missing data	16	13.0
	123	100.0
Windows		
Broken	44	35.8
Cracked	15	12.2
Sound	59	48.0
Did not see—missing data	5	4.1
	123	100.0

TABLE 19.—Experience, Skill Level, and Interest in Learning Specific Maintenance and Improvement Activities.

Maintenance and Improvement Activity	Experience		Skill Level					Interest in Learning*		
	Some	None	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Yes	Maybe	No
	Percent									
Build cupboards	39.0	60.2	60.2	1.6	17.9	12.2	5.7	78.0	0.0	21.1
Replace switches	69.9	29 3	27.6	4.1	26.0	31.7	7.3	74.8	1.6	23.6
Replace boards	76.4	23.6	24.4	1.6	38.2	28.5	4.9	74.0	2.4	22.8
Repair pipes	64.2	35.8	35.8	1.6	39.0	19.5	3.3	74.0	1.6	24.4
Repair faucets	60.2	39.8	39.8	0.8	26.0	27.6	3.3	74.0	1.6	24.4
Refinish wood	44.7	55.3	55.3	1.6	22.0	13.8	6.5	71.5	4.1	24.4
Repair plaster	52.0	47.2	47.2	5.7	29.3	12.2	4.1	71.5	1.6	26.0
Repair concrete	66.7	31.7	31.7	5.7	39.8	18.7	2.4	71.5	0.0	26.8
Caulk cracks	70.7	28.5	28.5	3.3	34.1	29.3	4.1	69.9	0.8	28.5
Paint outside	88.6	11.4	11.4	3.3	48.0	27.6	9.8	68.3	3.3	27.6
Put in insulation	57.7	41.5	41.5	1.6	23.6	21.1	8.9	68.3	0.8	30.1
Repair siding	45.5	52.8	52.8	1.6	22.8	17.9	3.3	67.5	2.4	29.3
Repair roofing	75.6	24.4	24.4	3.3	34.1	32.5	3.3	65.0	2.4	31.7
Repair gutters	46.3	52.8	52.8	0.8	26.0	15.4	3.3	65.0	0.8	32.5
Paper walls	39.8	60.2	60.2	5.7	20.3	9.8	2.4	61.0	0.8	37.4
Paint inside	89.4	10.6	10.6	4.1	42.3	33.3	9.8	59.3	3.3	36.6

*Activities are ordered by mean Maintenance and Improvement Interest index (MIINT) scores.

TABLE 20.—Satisfaction Ratings for Specified Situations in Present Housing.

	Satisfaction Scores					
	Very Dissatisfied 1	2	Neutral 3	4	Very Satisfied 5	Missing Information
Space	Percent					
Number of rooms	26.0	26.0	2.4	38.2	7.3	0.0
Amount of space	23.6	25.2	2.4	43.9	4.9	0.0
Number of bedrooms	24.4	25.2	0.8	43.9	5.7	0.0
Space in bedrooms	14.6	21.1	4.1	53.7	6.5	0.0
Number of bathrooms	26.0	22.0	2.4	42.3	4.9	2.4
Space in bathrooms	19.5	14.6	2.4	38.2	3.3	21.9
Facilities and storage						
Cooking facilities	13.8	10.6	2.4	69.1	4.1	0.0
Storage in kitchen	26.0	17.9	2.4	51.2	2.4	0.0
Storage in bedrooms	22.8	26.0	0.8	47.2	2.4	0.8
Storage in garage, attic, and basement	12.2	22.0	9.8	33.3	0.0	22.7
Comfort						
Comfort in winter	17.9	17.1	8.1	51.2	4.1	1.6
Comfort in summer	8.9	10.6	5.7	68.3	4.1	2.4
Insulation and weatherproofing	32.5	21.1	8.1	35.8	2.4	0.0
Condition						
Physical condition	25.2	17.9	11.4	43.9	1.6	0.0
Design						
Privacy	13.0	16.3	4.1	63.4	3.3	0.0
Floor plan	13.0	17.9	4.9	61.8	1.6	0.8
Style and design	14.6	21.1	7.3	53.7	3.3	0.0
Image given to others	18.7	15.4	14.6	48.8	1.6	0.8
Tenure						
Owner or renter status	6.5	8.9	5.7	74.8	3.3	0.8
Location						
Employment	11.4	14.6	6.5	59.3	8.1	0.0
Neighbors	6.5	12.2	6.5	69.1	5.7	0.0
Shopping	2.4	10.6	5.7	77.2	4.1	0.0
Schools	1.6	4.9	9.8	77.2	6.5	0.0
Recreation	4.1	14.6	13.0	62.6	4.9	0.8

the average MIEXP score was 9.8 or experience in slightly more than one-half of the 16 activities. Maintenance and improvement experience was correlated with education ($r = .25$, $p < .01$), but was not related significantly to other demographic, employment, or housing characteristics.

Skill level descriptions were scored from 1 for "very poor" to 5 for "very good" and summed into the Maintenance and Improvement Skill Index (MISKIL). The mean MISKIL score was 54.5, indicating when divided by the 16 activities, a skill level between "average" and "good." MISKIL was correlated with MIEXP ($r = .57$, $p < .01$). A high correlation would be expected from observing in Table 19 the similarity of response between the "none" column under experience and the "very poor" column under skill level. MISKIL was not correlated with other demographic, employment, or housing characteristics at the .01 level of probability.

Household heads also expressed their level of interest in learning or improving their skills. No interest in learning a specific maintenance and improvement activity was weighted as 3, a "maybe" response as 2, and a "yes" response as 1. Response weights were added for the 16 activities to obtain Maintenance and Improvement Interest Index (MIINT) scores. MIINT scores ranged from 48, obtained by 13% of the men with no interest in learning more about doing the repairs or improvements, to 16, the score of 60 men or about one-half of the household heads interviewed who were interested in learning more about all activities. The mean response, a score of 25, indicates a position about centered between "maybe" and "yes" on the interest in learning to improve skills index.

As number of persons in the household increased, the head of the household's interest in improving his skills at making repairs decreased ($r = .36$, $p < .01$). However, his interest increased as need for repairs (MINI) increased ($r = -.26$, $p < .01$) and as the proportion of the family income allotted to housing expenditures increased ($r = -.27$, $p < .01$). Means on the MIINT Index differed between owners and renters ($t = 3.08$, $p < .01$), disabled and non-disabled household heads ($t = 4.12$, $p < .01$), and those employed and unemployed ($t = 2.41$, $p < .01$). Household heads who were renters, had no disability, and who were unemployed indicated more interest in improving their skills than did the owner, disabled, and employed household heads.

Housing Satisfaction Index (HSI)

A Housing Satisfaction Index (HSI) was based on a number of questions about perceived satisfaction with space, storage facilities, comfort, condition, tenure, and location of housing. Each question was weighted for the importance. The items in the index were developed by Morris and his colleagues (5, pp. 67-79). The items were scored slightly different from the method used by Morris because a neutral position was included on the satisfaction scale. Each item had a potential range from 1 for "very dissatisfied" in combination with "very important" to 13 for "very satisfied" combined with "very important."

The percentage of responses in each category for the items is shown in Table 20 for satisfaction and Table 21 for importance questions. Missing observations were common for questions about bathrooms and storage in garage, attic, and basement because many respondents did not have these to rate. When a response was not available, items were scored for summation into the index, as were other items with a neutral or "neither satisfied nor dissatisfied" response. The score would thus be 7 or midway on the index when information on an item was missing.

The potential range for the HSI when scores for the 24 items were weighted and added together was from 24 to 312. The range of scores was from 60 to 303 (Table 22) and the mean score among all household heads was 169, a score similar to what would result from a neutral response to each of the 24 items.

Housing Satisfaction Index scores were correlated with Maintenance and Improvement Experience Index scores ($r = .33$, $p < .01$), Maintenance and Improvement Need score ($r = -.59$, $p < .01$), the measure of bedroom deficit from the personal norm ($r = -.31$, $p < .01$, and the Comfort Index ($r = .44$, $p < .01$. Household heads' satisfaction with their housing increased when their experience in doing maintenance and improvement tasks increased, when the need for maintenance and improvement decreased, when the number of bedrooms in the house approached the bedroom norm, and when the house was more completely screened, weatherproofed, and insulated. Mean scores were not significantly different on the Housing Satisfaction Index between owners and renters, employed and unemployed heads, and those with and without a disability.

Stepwise multiple regression was used to estimate the variation in Housing Satisfaction Index scores which could be explained by the combined effect of the Maintenance and Improvement Need Index (MINI), the bedroom deficit measure, the total square feet in the dwelling unit, the Comfort Index (CI), and the age of the home. The only variable which did not significantly improve the prediction equation was the age of the house. The other four variables each significantly increased the value of R^2, the proportion of variation in satisfaction accounted for by the equation.

TABLE 22.—Housing Satisfaction Index Scores.

Housing Satisfaction Index Scores*	Households	
	No.	%
60-89	9	7.3
90-119	10	8.1
120-149	14	11.4
150-179	25	20.3
180-209	26	21.1
210-239	33	26.8
240-269	5	4.1
303	1	0.8
	123	100.0
Mean	168.7	

*A score of 24 would represent a response of "very dissatisfied" to the 24 satisfaction items and a response of "very unimportant" to all importance items. A score of 312 would represent responses of "very satisfied" and "very important" to all items.

The squared multiple correlation coefficient was .45 ($F = 23.8$), indicating that 45% of the variation in Housing Satisfaction Index scores was explained by the need for maintenance and improvement, the bedroom deficit from personal norms, the area of the dwelling units, and the completeness of storm-sashing, screening, and insulation.

Residential Mobility and Improvement

Dissatisfaction with housing acts as an incentive to either move to another house or to make alterations in the present house a family occupies (5, pp. 67-79; 7). About 49% of household heads in this study expressed a desire to make changes, alterations, and/or additions in their dwelling units and 32% of heads indicated a desire to move from their dwellings in the next year. Nearly 10% said they wanted to do both, 22% wanted only to move, 39% wanted only to make housing adjustments, and 29% neither wanted to move nor to improve their present housing conditions (Table 23).

TABLE 21.—Importance Ratings for Specified Situations in Present Housing.

Present Housing Situation	Very Unimportant 1	2	3	Very Important 4	Missing Information
	Percent				
Space					
Number of rooms	0.0	3.3	59.3	37.4	0.0
Amount of space	0.8	2.4	63.4	33.0	0.0
Number of bedrooms	0.0	1.6	61.8	36.6	0.0
Space in bedrooms	0.8	9.8	58.5	30.9	0.0
Number of bathrooms	0.8	11.4	50.4	35.8	1.6
Space in bathrooms	0.8	5.7	55.3	28.5	9.7
Facilities and storage					
Cooking facilities	0.8	3.3	61.0	35.0	0.0
Storage in kitchen	0.8	1.6	61.8	35.8	0.0
Storage in bedrooms	0.8	5.7	62.6	30.1	0.8
Storage in garage, attic, and basement	0.0	13.8	55.3	12.2	18.7
Comfort					
Comfort in winter	0.0	1.6	50.4	46.3	1.6
Comfort in summer	0.0	4.1	67.5	26.8	1.6
Insulation and weatherproofing	0.0	8.1	49.6	41.5	0.8
Condition					
Physical condition	0.0	5.7	60.2	33.3	0.8
Design					
Privacy	0.0	3.3	66.7	30.1	0.0
Floor plan	0.0	11.4	69.1	18.7	0.8
Style and design	0.0	21.1	60.2	17.1	1.6
Image given to others	3.3	27.6	41.5	26.0	1.6
Tenure					
Owner or renter status	1.6	4.9	52.8	39.0	1.6
Location					
Employment	0.0	3.3	52.8	39.0	4.9
Neighbors	0.0	10.6	56.9	27.6	4.9
Shopping	0.0	9.8	59.3	25.2	5.7
Schools	0.0	15.4	54.5	26.0	4.1
Recreation	1.6	17.1	57.7	20.3	3.3

TABLE 23.—Desire to Move or Make Changes in Dwelling.

	Owners		Renters		Total Households	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Only want to make changes	33	62.3	15	21.7	48	39.9
Only want to move	5	9.4	22	31.9	27	22.1
Neither want to move or make changes	10	18.9	25	36.2	35	28.7
Want both to move and make changes	5	9.4	7	10.1	12	9.8
	53	99.0	69	100.0	122	100.0

The desire to make changes in the dwelling unit was not significantly related to Housing Satisfaction Index scores or to the Maintenance and Improvement Need Index. However, the men interested in improving their present housing had more members in their household ($t = 3.08$, $p < .01$), had lived more years in their dwelling units ($t = 2.03$, $p < .05$), had spent a greater part of their family income on housing ($t = 2.14$, $p < .05$), and had more interest in improving their maintenance and improvement skills ($t = 3.91$, $p < .01$) than did those not wanting to make changes in their dwelling units.

The variables which influenced a desire to move to another dwelling unit were dissimilar to those which influence those who wanted to make adjustments in their current housing. Housing Satisfaction Index scores were lower ($t = 2.6$, $p < .01$) and Maintenance and Improvement Need Index scores were higher ($t = 2.5$, $p < .01$) for those who wanted to be movers. Demographic characteristics, years in the dwelling unit, housing expenditure/income ratio, and interest in learning maintenance and improvement skills did not differ between those with and without a desire for mobility.

Owners and renters differed markedly in the action which they preferred. Owners wanted to make changes in their present housing; renters were more inclined to either move or remain in their present situation without any changes.

CONCLUSIONS

The men surveyed in this study are believed to be representative of unemployed and underemployed men in southeast Ohio, although there is no definite way of knowing. They are representative of those with more serious employment problems who avail themselves of various types of help programs and are known by their neighbors to have employment problems. To a large extent these men currently appear to be poorly equipped to compete in the labor market. Their education and skills are low and disability to some degree is frequent. Older men appear to be worse off than younger men in that they have especially low levels of education, are more likely to be disabled, have larger families to maintain, and, if unemployed, have been unemployed longer. While pessimism about future employment prospects and cynicism about the usefulness of job-seeking efforts characterized a large proportion of the men studied, older men were particularly prone to these feelings.

Men with higher levels of education were somewhat better off than those with less with respect to income, length of unemployment (if unemployed), total weeks of unemployment experienced in the past 3 years, and skill level. However, in most cases the differences were small because nearly three-fourths had less than 12 years of schooling and a difference of, for example, 8 as compared to 10 years of education would not be expected to alter employment prospects much.

The 44 men who had taken job training differed little, if at all, from those who had not taken it with respect to employment experience. This finding may indicate that those who received training were worse off to begin with (and therefore eligible for Federal training programs) and that the training was not sufficient. It may also indicate that persons were trained in skills for which there was no market—a view expressed by several respondents. Nearly all of the men studied were willing to take job training if it would improve their chances of getting a good job.

There seems to be both a need for and a high interest in job training programs. Given the experience of the men studied here, however, it appears that training should be connected to jobs, possibly through employer subsidization, rather than conducted as a separate entity.

Additional research is needed to determine the nature and degree of disability among those indicating such a problem. Some of those indicating presence of a disability might be restored to health through adequate medical care while some may be disabled only for certain kinds of work and could

benefit from retraining or counseling. Others may be permanently unemployable and require other kinds of assistance.

To a large extent housing problems are a symptom of unemployment and underemployment and low income. As expected, the houses in which the men and their families lived were frequently in need of repair, lacking in plumbing and comfort factors, and crowded according to cultural norms. In addition, the proportion of income spent on housing was very high—particularly for the unemployed—especially in view of what the housing dollar bought. However, the fact that neither income, household size, nor age of head was associated with the dollar outlay for housing suggests that within the income ranges of the families studied here, little housing was available from which to choose. Satisfaction with housing was strongly influenced by the need for maintenance and improvement, the deficit in bedrooms, the square feet of living space available to the family, and comfort factors such as screening, insulation, storm doors, and storm windows.

Interest was high in learning maintenance and improvement skills. Most of the men were interested in learning how to do their own repairs and improvements, including a higher proportion of renters than owners and a higher proportion of unemployed than employed men (perhaps because the need was greater).

Since unemployment and underemployment and inadequate housing are both serious and related problems in southeast Ohio, ideal solutions might seek to alleviate both simultaneously. Programs which raise incomes alone may only alleviate housing problems after a lag during which the supply of new and improved, older housing catches up with demand. Since many of the men indicated that they had some carpentry and home improvement skills not as yet used in paid employment and since interest in both job training and training in home maintenance and improvement skills appeared to be high, some of these men could be trained to perform home maintenance and improvement activities for pay, thereby attacking both problems at once. Other possibilities for programs capitalizing on the apparent interest in self help include homesteading for renters to encourage occupation of abandoned but salvageable housing and assistance to persons to improve dwelling weatherization.

Since the purpose of this study was simply to describe the employment and housing situation of the surveyed individuals, no attempt was made to identify the impact of their employment and housing problems on other aspects of their lives—particularly on their families. However, it is likely that other problems exist—*e.g.,* poor health of family members, poor nutrition, limited motivation of teenagers to stay in school given the absence of a successful role model—which need investigation and attention along with those of employment and housing to prevent the latter problems from being self-perpetuating.

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APPENDIX

OHIO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

GROW PROJECT: EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING: CURRENT SITUATION AND ASPIRATIONS OF UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED RESIDENTS OF A DEVELOPING RURAL AREA IN OHIO.

Respondent No._____

County_____

Interviewer_____

Date_____

Time started_____

Time finished_____

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE MALE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD MUST BE OBTAINED IN THE INITIAL CONTACT WITH THE FAMILY IN ORDER TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY. IF IT IS OBTAINED FROM SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE MALE HEAD, CONFIRM THE DATA AT THE BEGINNING OF THE INTERVIEW.

1) Age of male head_____

2) Length of residence in current dwelling_____ years

3) Does male head have any health problem or condition that limits in any way the amount or kind of work he can do?

——No

——Yes **SPECIFY** _____

_____

MAKE ANY NECESSARY CORRECTIONS. IF A CORRECTION RENDERS THE RESPONDENT INELIGIBLE, TERMINATE THE INTERVIEW. IF INFORMATION IS CORRECT OR RESPONDENT IS STILL ELIGIBLE REGARDLESS OF CORRECTIONS, PROCEED TO QUESTION 4.

4) How many persons live here altogether? _____

What is the relationship of each of these persons to you, his or her age, and sex?

Relationship to head	**Age**	**Sex**

5) Employment status of male head: ____Unemployed

____Employed

IF UNEMPLOYED

6) When did you last work at a regular full-time or part-time job or business?

RECORD ACTUAL DATE

_____month _____year _____never worked

7) Why did you leave that job?

IF MORE THAN ONE REASON, RANK 1, 2, ETC. ACCORDING TO WHICH WAS MORE IMPORTANT.

_____Health reasons

_____Seasonal work completed (e.g., harvesting)

_____Slack work or business conditions (e.g., layoff)

_____Temporary nonseasonal job completed (e.g,. construction job)

_____Unsatisfactory work arrangements (hours, pay, etc.)

_____Other **SPECIFY**

GO TO 11

IF EMPLOYED:

8) How many jobs do you have?_____

9) How many weeks per year do you usually work at your:

main job?_____ second job?_____

10) How many hours do you usually work per week at your:

main job?_____ second job?_____

IF LESS THAN 35 HOURS PER WEEK AT MAIN JOB:

Would you work more hours at your main job if you had the opportunity?

_____No _____Yes _____Don't know

11) What was your total income in 1975 which you earned in wages and salaries and/or from operating your own business?

$_____

12) Have you been looking for work during the past 4 weeks?

_____Yes **GO TO 14** _____No **ASK 13**

13) Is there any particular reason why you are not looking for work at this time?

IF MORE THAN ONE REASON, RANK 1, 2, ETC. ACCORDING TO WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT

_____Health reasons

_____Believe no work available

_____Do not want to work this time of year

_____Other **SPECIFY**

GO TO 18

14) What have you been doing in the past 4 weeks to find work?

IF MORE THAN ONE METHOD USED, RANK 1, 2, ETC. ACCORDING TO WHICH HAS BEEN USED MOST OFTEN, NEXT MOST OFTEN, ETC.

Checked with _____Public employment agency

_____Private employment agency

_____Employer directly

_____Friends or relatives

_____Placed or answered ads

_____Other **SPECIFY**

15) How many weeks have you been looking for work?_____

16) Are you looking for full-time or part-time work?

_____full-time _____part-time _____either/both

17) Why do you think you haven't found work yet?

IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE, RANK 1, 2, ETC. ACCORDING TO WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT

_____None available

_____Haven't looked hard enough

_____Haven't looked long enough

_____Skills aren't in demand

_____Discrimination

_____Other **SPECIFY**

18) Do you intend to look for work of any kind in the next 12 months?

_____Yes, definitely

_____Yes, probably

_____Maybe, depends on_____

_____No

_____Don't know

19) What kind of business do you (did you last) work for? (for example, TV and radio manufacturer, retail shoe store, farm)

_____Main job

_____Second job

20) What kind of work are (were) you doing? (for example, electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer)

_____Main job

_____Second job

21) What kind or kinds of work do you feel best qualified to perform?

_____Same as current or last job

_____Other **SPECIFY**

22) What are the three most important things to you about a job?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

23) a. For you to accept a job offer, what kind of work would it have to be?

_____

b. What would the wage or salary have to be?

_____

24) Do you feel that getting a job

_____Depends mainly on being in the right place at the right time, or

_____Is a matter of hard work

The next three questions are concerned with your work experience over the past 3 years.

25) In the past 3 years, how many different jobs have you held?

_____

26) In the past 3 years, about how many weeks or months were you unemployed?

_____Weeks _____Months

How many different times was this?

_____

27) In the past 3 years, about how many weeks or months were you working, but fewer hours than you wanted to work?

_____Weeks _____Months

28) Looking back over all your working years, what are all the different kinds of work you have done?

BE SPECIFIC

_____

_____

29) What other kinds of work can you do?

BE SPECIFIC

_____

_____

30) What was the highest grade in school you completed?

_____Years elementary school

_____Years high school

_____Years college; _____Major

31 Have you had any formal job training?

_____Yes _____No **GO TO 33**

32) Who provided the training and what kind of work was it for?

_____Type of institution

_____Kind of work

33) Would you be willing to undertake training if it would improve your chances of getting a good job?

_____No _____Yes, definitely

_____Yes, depends on:

_____Kind of work training is for

_____Location of work training is for

_____Wages of work training is for

_____Location of training

_____Cost of training

_____Who provides the training

_____Other **SPECIFY**

34) If by some chance you were to get enough money to live comfortably without working, do you think that you would work anyway?

_____Yes _____No _____Undecided

Why do you feel this way?

_____

35) Describe the kind of job you would like to have:

_____Occupation

_____Hours

_____Pay

_____Location

_____Other

36) Do you think your chances of finding a job like this in the next year are:

_____Poor

_____Fair

_____Good, or

_____Excellent

37) Do you think your chances of finding a job like this in your lifetime are:

_____Poor

_____Fair

_____Good, or

_____Excellent

38) What was your total family income in 1975 from all sources before deductions?

$_____

How much was from:

$_____Wages and salaries

$_____Own business including farm

$_____Welfare

$_____Pensions, including social security

$_____Unemployment compensation

$_____Interest, dividends, rent

$_____Other

The next questions are about experience and skills in home maintenance.

QUESTIONS ARE ASKED IN AN A, B, C OR A, C SEQUENCE AS FOLLOWS:

A. HAVE YOU EVER . . . (SEE 1 THROUGH 16 BELOW) . . . ?
N=NO (GO TO C) Y=YES (GO TO B AND FOLLOW WITH C)

B. HOW GOOD ARE YOU AT IT?
VP=VERY POOR P=POOR A=AVERAGE G=GOOD
VG=VERY GOOD

C. ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING OR IMPROVING YOUR SKILLS?
N=NO ?=MAYBE Y=YES

ANSWERS ARE ENTERED INTO CHART ON FOLLOWING PAGE

39) Have you ever painted or helped **paint** the **outside** of a house?

40) Have you ever painted or helped **paint** walls or ceilings **inside** a house?

41) Have you ever papered or helped **paper walls**?

42) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair plaster** or dry wall?

43) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair concrete** or mortar?

44) Have you ever refinished or helped **refinish wood,** such as floors, doors, or windows?

45) Have you ever replaced or helped **replace boards** in floors, steps, or porches?

46) Have you ever repaired or help **repair siding,** shingles, or stucco on the outside of a house?

47) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair roofing**?

48) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair flashing** or gutters on a roof?

49) Have you ever caulked or helped **caulk cracks** around fixtures, windows, doors, or foundations?

50) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair** leaking **pipes**?

51) Have you ever repaired or helped **repair** dripping **faucets**?

52) Have you ever replaced or helped **replace** light fixtures, wall outlets, or **switches**?

53) Have you ever put in or helped **put in insulation** for ceilings, walls or floors?

54) Have you ever built or helped **build cupboards,** cabinets or closets?

CHART FOR RECORDING ANSWERS TO QUESTIO NS FROM PRECEDING PAGE. COMPLETE EACH ROW BEFORE GOING TO NEXT ROW.

a. READ QUESTION A FROM PRECEDING PAGE

b. READ QUESTION B

c. READ QUESTION C

	a. Have you ever done or helped? (If no, go to c)		b. How good are you at it?					c. Are you interested in learning or improving your skill?		
REPAIR OR IMPROVEMENT	**NO**	**YES**	**VERY POOR**	**POOR**	**AVG.**	**GOOD**	**VERY GOOD**	**NO**	**MAYBE**	**YES**
39) Paint outside?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
40) Paint inside?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
41) Paper walls?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
42) Repair plaster?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
43) Repair concrete?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
44) Refinish wood?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
45) Replace boards?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
46) Repair siding?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
47) Repair roofing?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
48) Repair gutters?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
49) Caulk cracks?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
50) Repair pipes?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
51) Repair faucets?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
52) Replace switches?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
53) Put in insulation?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y
54) Build cupboards?	N	Y	VP	P	A	G	VG	N	?	Y

55) Does your house need any of the repairs or improvements that we have discussed?

READ LIST AND CHECK THOSE WITH YES ANSWERS

_____Outside painting
_____Inside painting
_____Wall papering
_____Plaster repairs
_____Concrete repairs
_____Wood refinishing
_____Replacing boards
_____Repair of siding
_____Roofing repairs
_____Gutter repairs
_____Crack caulking
_____Pipe repairs
_____Faucet repairs
_____Switch repairs
_____Insulating
_____Building storage

56) If your house needs work and it hasn't been done, why not?

DO NOT PROMPT RESPONSES. CHECK CONCEPTS BELOW WHEN MENTIONED IN RESPONSE.

_____Health

_____Skills, ability

_____Tools, equipment

_____Materials, supplies

_____Money

_____Time

_____Other **Explain**_____

_____

_____

_____

57) What do you think would be the best kind of housing for the average American family of the **same size, sex, and ages** as your family? Rank in 1, 2, 3 order.

_____Single family house

_____Duplex or two-family house

_____Apartment building, multiple dwelling

_____Rowhouse, townhouse

_____Mobile home in mobile home park

_____Mobile home on lot

58) How many bedrooms do you feel the average American family of the **same size, sex, and ages** as your family needs?

_____(number)

59) What rooms besides bedrooms do you feel this average American family should have?

DON'T PROMPT

_____Living room

_____Separate dining room

_____Kitchen

_____One bath

_____One and one-half baths

_____Two baths

_____Family room or recreation room

_____Utility room

_____Laundry room

_____Workshop

_____Other_____

_____

60) How old is this house?

_____Years or

_____Year built

61) When did you move into this house?

_____Year, or

_____Years ago

62) Do you own or rent this house?

_____Own

_____Rent

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____ _____

63) Do you own or rent this lot? (The ground the building or mobile home is located on?)

_____Own

_____Rent

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____ _____

64) What is your monthly **or** yearly cost of:

	Monthly	Yearly
Fuel (gas, oil, coal, wood)	_____	_____
Electricity	_____	_____
Water	_____	_____
Sewer	_____	_____
Property tax	_____	_____
Insurance	_____	_____
Mortgage payment	_____	_____
Rent **RENTERS GO TO 66**	_____	_____

OWNERS ONLY

65) How much do you think you could get for this house if you sold it now?

$_____ **GO TO 66**

OWNERS AND RENTERS

66) For the value of the house that you live in, do you feel the amount you are paying for housing is:

_____Too little?

_____About the right amount?

_____Too much?

67) In relation to your total income and the other things you have to pay for, do you feel the amount you pay for housing is:

_____Less than you could afford

_____About the right amount

_____More than you can afford

68) How many rooms of these different types are in your house?

Type	Number	CHECK Yes	No
Bedrooms?	_____		
Living room?	_____		
Is there an eating area in the living room?		—	—
Separate dining room?		—	—
Kitchen	_____		
Does it have a stove or range?		—	—
Does it have a refrigerator?		—	—
Does it have a sink with cold water?		—	—
hot water?		—	—
Is there an eating area in kitchen?		—	—
Full bathroom (tub or shower, sink, and flush toilet)	_____	—	—
Half-baths (two of above)	_____	—	—
Family room or recreation room	_____		

Other **SPECIFY**_____

69) Do you get water from:

_____A public or private piped system?

_____An individual well?

_____A cistern, spring, or stream?

Other **SPECIFY**_____

70) How do you dispose of trash?

_____Collected

_____Burned

_____Private dump

_____Buried

_____Green boxes

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____

71) How do you dispose of garbage?

_____Food waste disposer

_____Collected

_____Composted or fed to animals

_____Green boxes

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____

72) Is your house connected to:

_____Public sewer?

_____Septic tank or cesspool?

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____

73) Do you have any of the following items?

IF THEY HAVE, ASK IF PARTIAL OR COMPLETE

	No	Partial	Complete
Door screens?	—	—	—
Window screens?	—	—	—
Storm doors?	—	—	—
Storm windows?	—	—	—
Wall insulation?	—	—	—
Attic, ceiling, or roof insulation?	—	—	—

74) What is the type of fuel used for your main heat source?

_____Electricity

_____Gas

_____Oil

_____Coal

_____Wood

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____

75) What type of system is used as your main heat source?

_____None

_____Steam or hot water system

_____Central forced air or heat pump

_____Gravity system

_____Built in electric baseboard or cable

_____Floor or wall system

_____Space heaters non-vented

_____Space heaters vented

_____Fireplace, Franklin stove

_____Portable plug-in heaters

_____Other **SPECIFY**_____

76) Do you heat all your rooms in winter?

_____No

_____Yes

77) Do you have air conditioning?

_____No

_____Yes, room air conditioner _____(number)

_____Central air conditioning system

RECORD YES OR NO FOR EACH ITEM. IF THE RESPONDENT SEEMS DOUBTFUL OR IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, RECORD YOUR OWN ESTIMATE ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE ANSWER BLOCK.

	Respondent		Interviewer	
	Yes	**No**	**Yes**	**No**
78) Do you have floors which need repair?	—	—	—	—
79) Do you have walls which need repair?	—	—	—	—
80) Do you have windows which need repair?	—	—	—	—
81) Does your heating system need repair?	—	—	—	—
82) Does the plumbing need repair?	—	—	—	—

83) While living in this house, have you been troubled by the following:

	Never	**So seldom not a problem**	**Occasionally, but of little concern**	**Enough to feel it is a problem**
Termites	____	____	____	____
Roaches	____	____	____	____
Flies	____	____	____	____
Mice	____	____	____	____
Rats	____	____	____	____
Mildew	____	____	____	____
Flooding of unfinished basement or garage	____	____	____	____
Flooding of finished living area	____	____	____	____

84) Do surrounding land uses cause problems with:

	Never	**So seldom not a problem**	**Occasionally, but of little concern**	**Enough to feel it is a problem**
Odor	____	____	____	____
Noise	____	____	____	____
Dust, smoke, or dirt	____	____	____	____
Traffic	____	____	____	____

Please indicate your feelings about your present situation with one of the following answers:

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
4. Satisfied
5. Very satisfied

	Satisfaction					Importance			
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
85) The number of rooms in your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
86) The amount of space in your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
87) The number of bedrooms in your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
88) The space in the bedrooms	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
89) The number of bathrooms in your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
90) The space in the bathrooms	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
91) The cooking facilities in your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
92) The storage in the kitchen	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
93) The storage in bedrooms	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
94) The storage in the garage, attic, or basement	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
95) The comfort of your house in winter	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
96) The comfort of your house in summer	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
97) The insulation and weatherproofing of your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
98) The physical condition of your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
99) The privacy your house provides for family members	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
100) The floor plan of your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
101) The style or design of your house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
102) The image your house gives to others	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
103) The rental or ownership tenure you have in this house	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
104) The location of your house:									
from employment opportunities	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
from the neighbors	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
from shopping areas	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
from schools	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU
from recreation	VD	D	N	S	VS	VI	I	U	VU

Please indicate how important you feel these features are to your housing satisfaction with one of the following answers:

1. Very unimportant
2. Unimportant
3. Important
4. Very important

GO BACK TO QUESTION 85 AND REREAD THROUGH QUESTION 104, USING IMPORTANCE SCALE.

105) Do you have any desire to make any changes, alterations, or additions to this dwelling in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 109**

106) Do you expect to make any changes, alterations, or additions to this dwelling in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 108**

107) You have said that you do not want to make changes and do not think you will make changes. Why do you think you will not make changes in your dwelling during the coming year?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 113**

108) You have said that you do not want to make changes and do think you will make changes in the next year. Why do you think you will make changes?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 112**

109) Do you expect to make any changes in your dwelling in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 111**

110) You have said that you do want to make changes but do not think you will make changes. Why do you think you will not make changes in your dwelling during the coming year?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 113**

111) You have said you do want to make changes and think you will make changes. Why do you think you will make changes?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 112**

112) What specific types of changes do you think you'll make in the next 12 months?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 113**

113) Do you have any desire to move in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 117**

114) Do you expect to move in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 116**

115) You have said that you do not want to move and do not think you will move. Why do you think you will not move?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 121**

116) You have said you do not want to move but you think you will move. Why do you think you will move?

_____

_____**GO TO 120**

117) Do you and your family expect to move in the next year?

_____0 No

_____1 Yes **GO TO 119**

118) You have said you want to move but you do not think you will move. Why do you think you will not move?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 121**

119) You have said you want to move and you do expect to move. Why do you expect to move?

_____

_____

_____**GO TO 120**

120) Where would you like to move to?

Within same county

_____a. Within same neighborhood

_____b. Nearer to more urban area

_____c. Further from more urban area

Within Ohio

_____a. Urban Ohio

_____b. Rural Ohio

Outside of Ohio

_____a. Urban area

_____b. Rural area

INTERVIEWER SEGMENT

121) Which of the following **best** describes the dwelling unit: (check one)

_____Single family house

_____Duplex, twin-single, or two-family house

_____Apartment in apartment building

_____Row-house or townhouse

_____Mobile home in mobile home park

_____Mobile home on single lot

122) Style of house (see display, consider living area only and not garage)

_____One-story, mobile home, one-floor apartment

_____Two-story or townhouse

_____Split level

_____Two-story with one-story wing

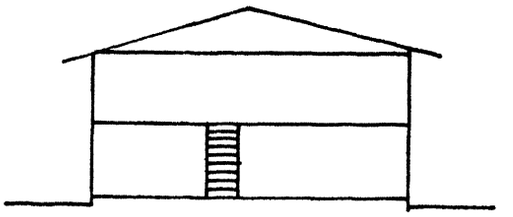
_____Raised ranch

_____One and one-half story

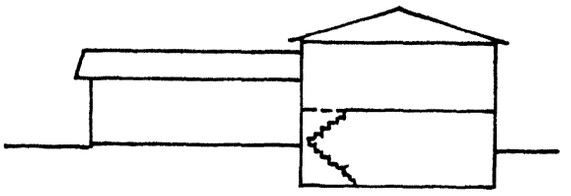
_____Other; describe_____

_____

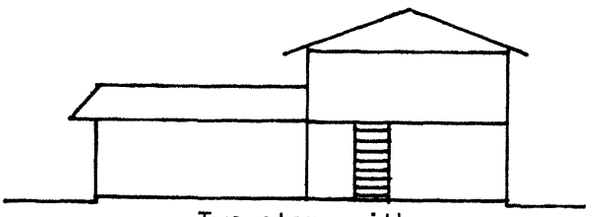
One-story,
mobile home, and
one-floor apartment



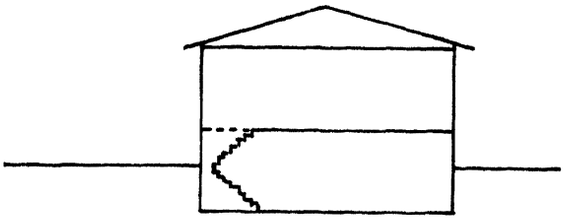
Two-story and
townhouse



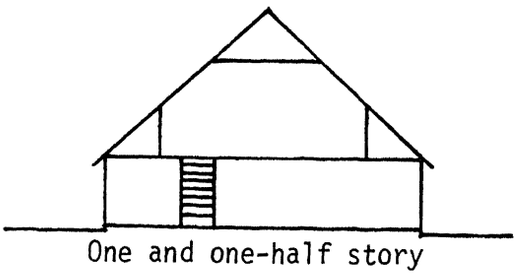
Split level



Two-story with
one-story wing



Raised ranch



One and one-half story

123) Floor plan of house

_____Square or rectangle

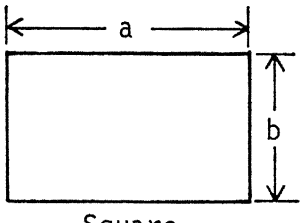
_____L

_____T

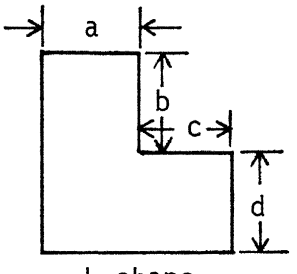
_____H

_____U

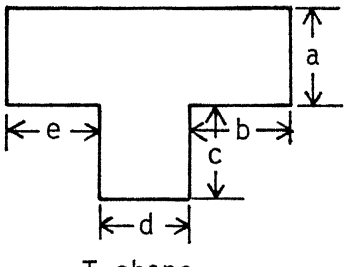
_____Other; Sketch



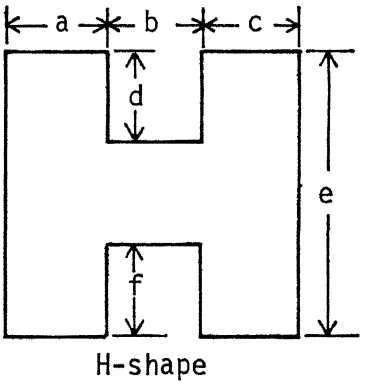
Square
or Rectangle



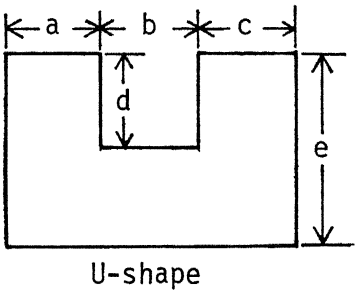
L-shape



T-shape



H-shape



U-shape

USE ABOVE SPACE TO SKETCH ODD SHAPE OF HOUSE

124) **ESTIMATE OF DIMENSIONS. IF YOU HAVE DRAWN OWN SKETCH, LABEL A, B, C, ETC. MEASURE AND ENTER BELOW.**

Estimates:

_____ft. a

_____ft. b

_____ft. c

_____ft. d

_____ft. e

Indicate areas of 1½, 2, or 3 stories of living space on sketch.

125) Interviewer's estimate of external condition:

Foundation:

_____Did not see

_____Blocks, stone, or concrete displaced or shifted, holes. Dips from level or gaps from sill

_____Cracks over more than 1 foot, sill exposed

_____Small cracks, appear to be minor

_____Sound

126) Lowest courses of facing material:

_____Uneven, signs of sagging, mortar missing, holes, splits, blistering, warping, or bulging

_____Minor faults, chips, signs of surface wear

_____Even, appear sealed, in good condition

127) Gutters and downspouts:

_____None

_____Out of line with roof, sagging, broken off—not connected to downspout, signs of soil erosion at perimeter of house

_____Signs of rust, paint peeling, fasteners not attached

_____Sound

128) Porch and steps:

_____Rotted or split wood, settled out of level, some boards missing.

_____Surface painting showing deterioration, wear of concrete, minor cracks, warped boards

_____Sound

129) Windows:

_____Broken windows

_____Cracked windows

_____Sound windows

BETTER LIVING IS THE PRODUCT

of research at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. All Ohioans benefit from this product.

Ohio's farm families benefit from the results of agricultural research translated into increased earnings and improved living conditions. So do the families of the thousands of workers employed in the firms making up the state's agribusiness complex.

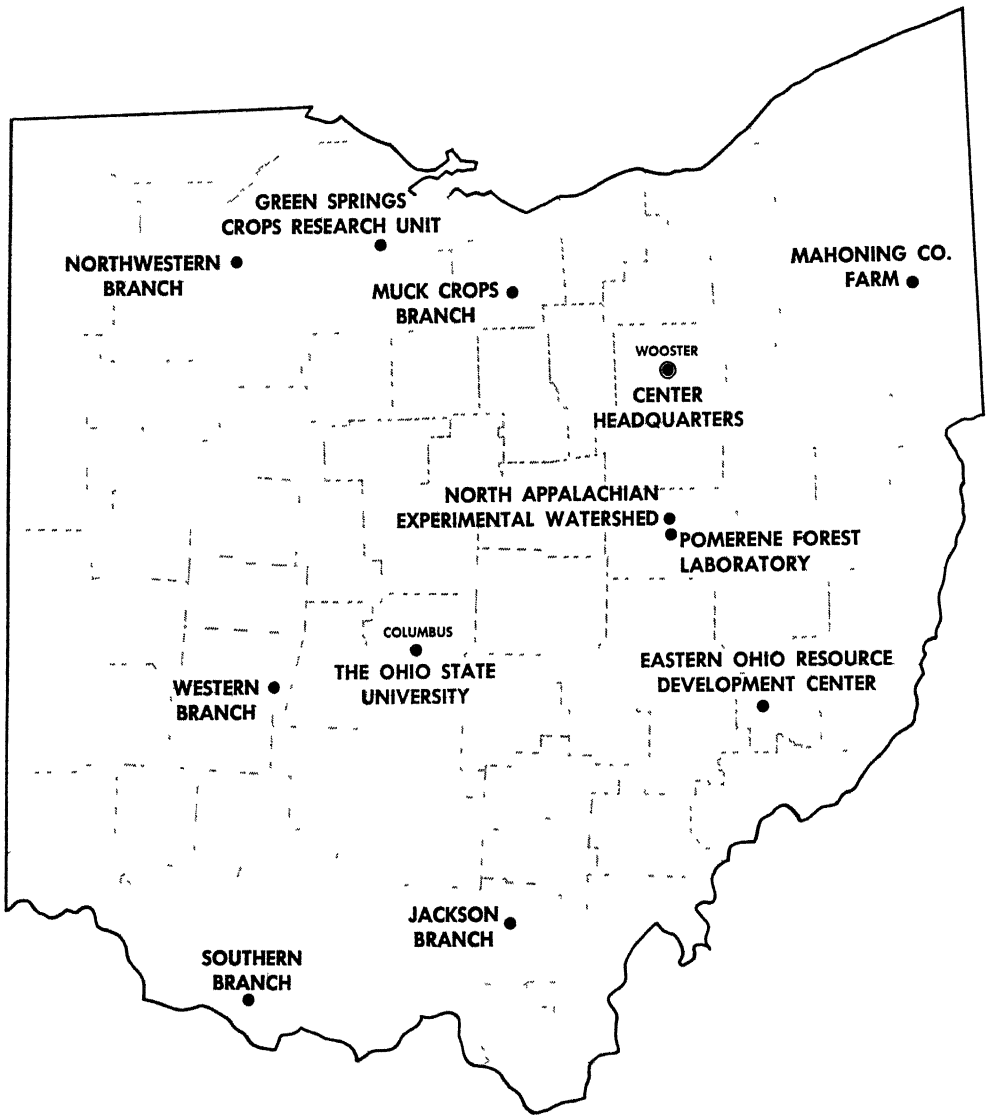
But the greatest benefits of agricultural research flow to the millions of Ohio consumers. They enjoy the end products of agricultural science—the world's most wholesome and nutritious food, attractive lawns, beautiful ornamental plants, and hundreds of consumer products containing ingredients originating on the farm, in the greenhouse and nursery, or in the forest.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, as the Center was called for 83 years, was established at The Ohio State University, Columbus, in 1882. Ten years later, the Station was moved to its present location in Wayne County. In 1965, the Ohio General Assembly passed legislation changing the name to Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center—a name which more accurately reflects the nature and scope of the Center's research program today.

Research at OARDC deals with the improvement of all agricultural production and marketing practices. It is concerned with the development of an agricultural product from germination of a seed or development of an embryo through to the consumer's dinner table. It is directed at improved human nutrition, family and child development, home management, and all other aspects of family life. It is geared to enhancing and preserving the quality of our environment.

Individuals and groups are welcome to visit the OARDC, to enjoy the attractive buildings, grounds, and arboretum, and to observe first hand research aimed at the goal of Better Living for All Ohioans!

The State Is the Campus for Agricultural Research and Development



Ohio's major soil types and climatic conditions are represented at the Research Center's 12 locations.

Research is conducted by 15 departments on more than 7000 acres at Center headquarters in Wooster, seven branches, Green Springs Crops Research Unit, Pomerene Forest Laboratory, North Appalachian Experimental Watershed, and The Ohio State University.

Center Headquarters, Wooster, Wayne County: 1953 acres

Eastern Ohio Resource Development Center, Caldwell, Noble County: 2053 acres

Green Springs Crops Research Unit, Green Springs, Sandusky County: 26 acres

Jackson Branch, Jackson, Jackson County: 502 acres

Mahoning County Farm, Canfield: 275 acres

Muck Crops Branch, Willard, Huron County: 15 acres

North Appalachian Experimental Watershed, Coshocton, Coshocton County: 1047 acres (Cooperative with Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture)

Northwestern Branch, Hoytville, Wood County: 247 acres

Pomerene Forest Laboratory, Coshocton County: 227 acres

Southern Branch, Ripley, Brown County: 275 acres

Western Branch, South Charleston, Clark County: 428 acres